## Remarks for the National Health Center Week Press Conference August 8, 2003

■ It is great to be here with you today to celebrate National Health Center Week

■ I am honored and it is indeed a pleasure to be surrounded by so many people that care about the health of Mississippians regardless of income, race, or age

- I believe the measure of our society is found in the way we treat our people our children, their parents, and the elderly
- Community health centers provide quality medical services to the uninsured and to those in underserved areas

o Never turn anyone away

In 2001 alone, Mississippi Health Care
 Centers provided health services to
 268,326 Mississippians

- Some one once said, "He who has health, has hope; and he who has hope, has everything."
- Hope is what the Mississippi Community
  Health Centers are providing:
  - Every time a sick child sees a doctor
     and gets well
  - o Every time a cavity is filled
  - o Every time someone gets help for substance abuse

- Healthy children are ready, willing, and
   happy to go to school in the mornings and
   are better equipped to learn
- Healthy parents are geared-up and enthusiastic about going to work to provide for their families

Healthy families, happier communities, a better Mississippi